



State of Wisconsin

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# Preliminary Crime and Arrests in Wisconsin 2005

July 2006

## A. Introduction

This report summarizes statewide crime and arrests in Wisconsin for 2005 and compares the figures with those of past years. After the police agencies and our staff have reviewed the preliminary reports for each agency we shall issue the final report on this crime and arrest data, including county and local jurisdiction data. This will be available later this year.

## B. Crime and Arrests: 2004 and 2005

TABLE 1  
OFFENSES KNOWN TO  
WISCONSIN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES  
2004 AND 2005

<u>Violent Offenses</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Murder	155	201	+29.7
Forcible Rape	1,133	1,155	+1.9
Robbery	4,163	4,596	+10.4
Aggravated Assault	6,200	7,559	+21.9
<b>Total Violent Offenses</b>	<b>11,651</b>	<b>13,511</b>	<b>+16.0</b>
<u>Property Offenses</u>			
Burglary	24,093	24,521	+1.8
Theft	112,031	110,395	-1.5
Motor Vehicle Theft	11,571	12,432	+7.4
Arson	841	745	-11.4
<b>Total Property Offenses</b>	<b>148,536</b>	<b>148,093</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

Total violent crime increased by 16.0 percent due to increases in all four violent crime categories. The highest percentage increases were in murder and aggravated assault. Total property crime had little change from the previous year and only fell by 0.3 percent, largely due to the small percent change in theft.

TABLE 2  
TOTAL ARRESTS  
WISCONSIN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES  
2004 AND 2005

<u>Violent Offenses</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Murder	293	222	-24.2
Forcible Rape	907	888	-2.1
Robbery	1,594	1,426	-10.5
Aggravated Assault	6,919	4,729	-31.7
<b>Total Arrests Violent Offenses</b>	<b>9,713</b>	<b>7,265</b>	<b>-25.2</b>
<u>Property Offenses</u>			
Burglary	4,820	4,584	-4.9
Theft	35,992	28,421	-21.0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2,108	2,590	+22.9
Arson	308	344	+11.7
<b>Total Arrests Property Offenses</b>	<b>43,228</b>	<b>35,939</b>	<b>-16.9</b>
Arrests Non-Index Offenses	398,504	372,924	-6.4
<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>451,445</b>	<b>416,128</b>	<b>-7.8</b>

Total arrests for violent offenses decreased by 25.2 percent due to declines in arrests for all violent crime categories including a 31.7 percent decrease in aggravated assault arrests and a 24.2 percent decrease in murder arrests. Although motor vehicle theft arrests increased by 22.9 percent, total arrests for property offenses decreased by 16.9 percent, largely due to the 21.0 percent decrease in arrests for theft.

The total number of arrests for Non-Index Offenses decreased by 6.4 percent, largely due to declines in arrests for offenses such as disorderly conduct and the general classification of all other offenses.

TABLE 3  
ADULT ARRESTS  
WISCONSIN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES  
2004 AND 2005

<u>Violent Offenses</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Murder	268	205	-23.5
Forcible Rape	654	632	-3.4
Robbery	1,040	944	-9.2
Aggravated Assault	5,918	3,869	-34.6
<b>Total Arrests Violent Offenses</b>	<b>7,880</b>	<b>5,650</b>	<b>-28.3</b>
<u>Property Offenses</u>			
Burglary	2,797	2,830	+1.2
Theft	21,432	17,115	-20.1
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,096	1,298	+18.4
Arson	119	169	+42.0
<b>Total Arrests Property Offenses</b>	<b>25,444</b>	<b>21,412</b>	<b>-15.8</b>
Arrests Non-Index Offenses	304,776	285,830	-6.2
<b>Total Adult Arrests</b>	<b>338,100</b>	<b>312,892</b>	<b>-7.5</b>

All arrest figures in this report continue to include seventeen year-olds in the juvenile category. Total arrests for violent offenses decreased by 28.3 percent including a 34.6 percent decrease in aggravate assault arrests and a 23.5 percent decrease in murder arrests. Although arrests for arson increased by 42.0 percent and arrests for motor vehicle theft increased by 18.4 percent, total arrests for property offenses decreased by 15.8 percent, largely due to the 20.1 percent decrease in arrests for theft.

The total number of arrests for Non-Index Offenses decreased by 6.2 percent, largely due to declines in arrests for offenses such as vandalism, disorderly conduct, and the general classification of all other offenses.

TABLE 4  
JUVENILE ARRESTS  
WISCONSIN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES  
2004 AND 2005

<u>Violent Offenses</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Murder	25	17	-32.0
Forcible Rape	253	256	+1.2
Robbery	554	482	-13.0
Aggravated Assault	1,001	860	-14.1
<b>Total Arrests Violent Offenses</b>	<b>1,833</b>	<b>1,615</b>	<b>-11.9</b>
<u>Property Offenses</u>			
Burglary	2,023	1,754	-13.3
Theft	14,560	11,306	-22.3
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,012	1,292	+27.7
Arson	189	175	-7.4
<b>Total Arrests Property Offenses</b>	<b>17,784</b>	<b>14,527</b>	<b>-18.3</b>
Arrests Status Offenses	21,967	21,966	0.0
Arrests Non-Index Offenses	71,761	65,128	-9.2
<b>Total Juvenile Arrests</b>	<b>113,345</b>	<b>103,236</b>	<b>-8.9</b>

Total arrests for violent offenses decreased by 11.9 percent due to declines in all of the violent crime categories except forcible rape, which increased by 1.2 percent. Even with a 27.7 percent increase in arrests for motor vehicle theft, total arrests for property offenses decreased by 18.3 percent, largely due to the 22.3 percent decrease in arrests for theft.

The total number of arrests for Non-Index Offenses decreased by 9.2 percent, largely due to declines in arrests for the offenses of simple assault, disorderly conduct, and total drug violations. The number of juveniles arrested for drug law violations decreased by 16.4 percent in 2005.

TABLE 5  
CLEARANCE RATES  
FOR INDEX OFFENSES

<u>Violent Offenses</u>	National <u>2004</u>	Midwest <u>2004</u>	Wisconsin <u>2004</u>	Wisconsin <u>2005</u>
Murder	63%	58%	84%	66%
Forcible Rape	42%	35%	66%	58%
Robbery	26%	22%	28%	23%
Aggravated Assault	56%	52%	71%	60%
<b>Total Violent Offenses</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>47%</b>
<u>Property Offenses</u>				
Burglary	13%	11%	16%	15%
Theft	18%	18%	25%	24%
Motor Vehicle Theft	13%	14%	23%	21%
Arson	17%	15%	24%	28%
<b>Total Property Offenses</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>22%</b>

By comparison, the 2004 national clearance rate was 46 percent for violent crime and 17 percent for property crime. The 2004 Midwest clearance rate was 42 percent for violent crime and 16 percent for property crime. The 2004 Wisconsin clearance rate was 55 percent for violent crime and 23 percent for property crime. The 2005 Wisconsin clearance rate was 47 percent for violent crime and 22 percent for property crime. Wisconsin clearance rates for all eight offenses are higher than the Midwest and national rates with one exception. The national clearance rate for robbery was 26 percent while Wisconsin's was 23 percent.

(Clearance rates are the percentage of crimes that law enforcement agencies have closed by arresting at least one person involved in the commission of the offense or officially resolved for some other reason.)

## C. Ten Year Trends in Crime and Arrests

The following three pages provide some context for the 2005 crime and arrest figures. Table 6, together with Graphs 1 through 4, show trends in reported offenses together with adult and juvenile arrests during the past decade.

TABLE 6  
WISCONSIN CRIME AND ARRESTS, 1995– 2005

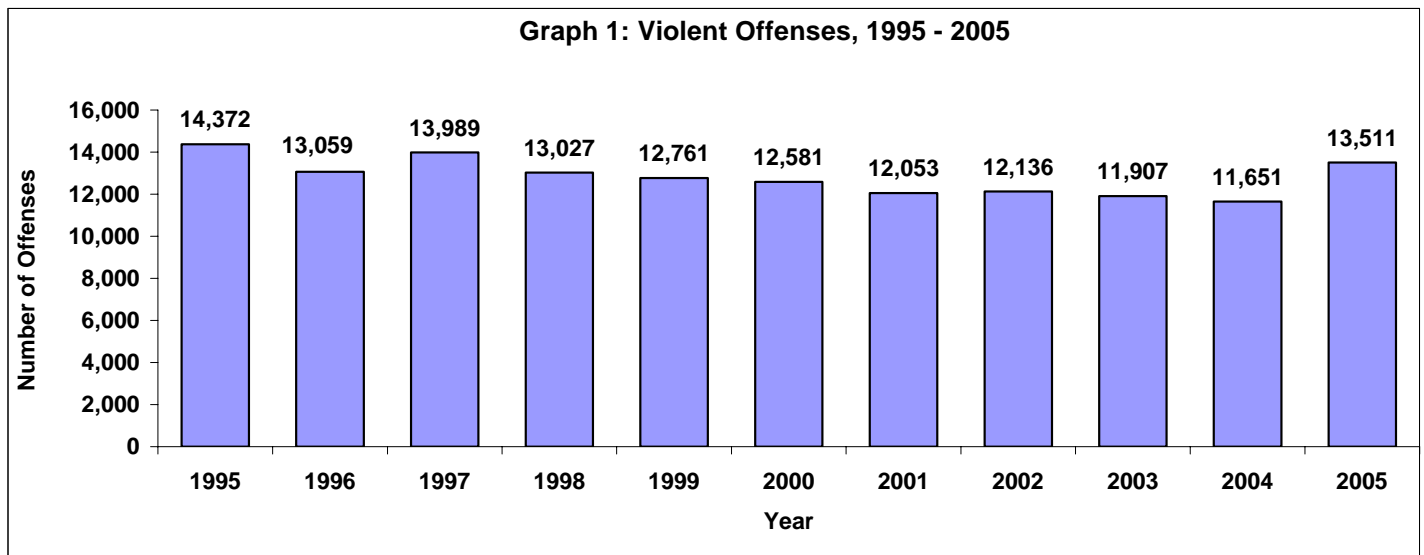
	OFFENSES			Percent Change		
	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>95 - 00</u>	<u>00 - 05</u>	<u>95 - 05</u>
Violent	14,372	12,581	13,511	-12.5	+7.4	-6.0
Murder	218	173	201	-20.6	+16.2	-7.8
Forcible Rape	1,179	1,121	1,155	-4.9	+3.0	-2.0
Robbery	5,386	4,520	4,596	-16.1	+1.7	-14.7
Aggravated Assault	7,589	6,767	7,559	-10.8	+11.7	-0.4
Property	186,141	158,690	148,093	-14.7	-6.7	-20.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>200,513</b>	<b>171,271</b>	<b>161,604</b>	<b>-14.6</b>	<b>-5.6</b>	<b>-19.4</b>

### ADULT ARRESTS FOR VIOLENT AND PROPERTY OFFENSES

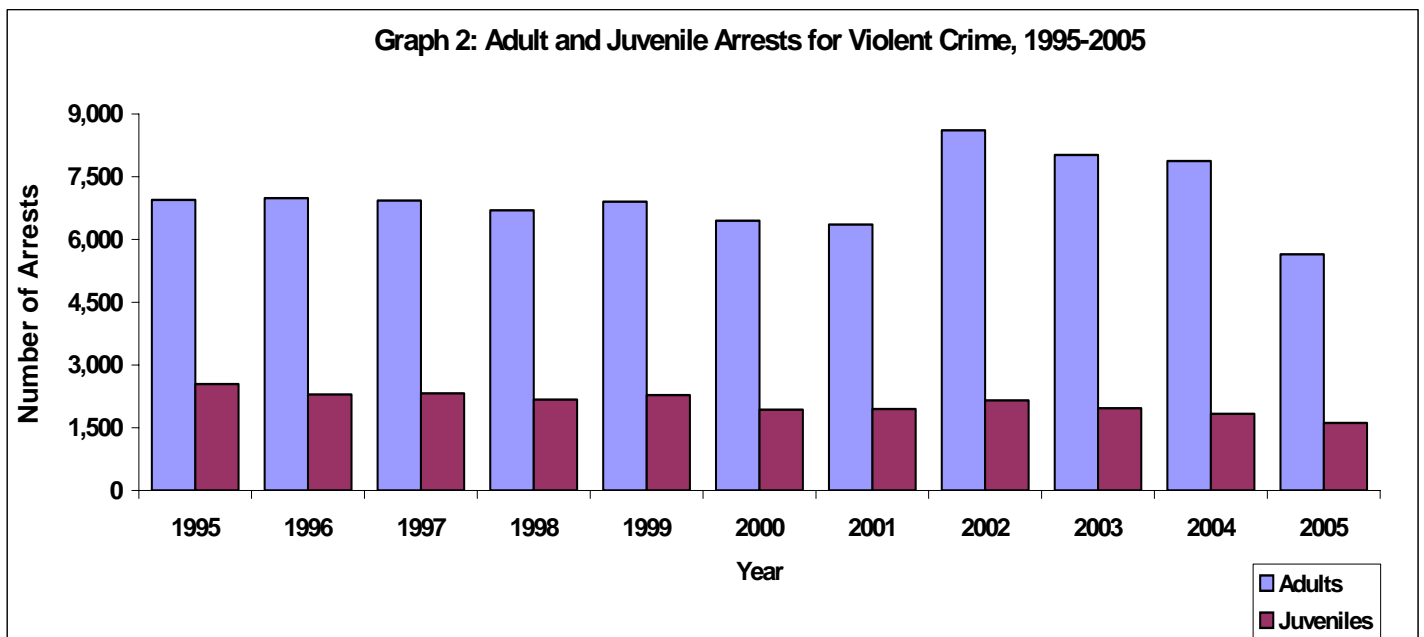
				Percent Change		
	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>95 - 00</u>	<u>00 - 05</u>	<u>95 - 05</u>
Violent	6,950	6,451	5,650	-7.2	-12.4	-18.7
Murder	355	257	205	-27.6	-20.2	-42.3
Forcible Rape	509	580	632	+13.9	+9.0	+24.2
Robbery	1,341	1,031	944	-23.1	-8.4	-29.6
Aggravated Assault	4,745	4,583	3,869	-3.4	-15.6	-18.5
Property	28,407	22,993	21,412	-19.1	-6.9	-24.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,357</b>	<b>29,444</b>	<b>27,062</b>	<b>-16.7</b>	<b>-8.1</b>	<b>-23.5</b>

### JUVENILE ARRESTS FOR VIOLENT AND PROPERTY OFFENSES

				Percent Change		
	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>95 - 00</u>	<u>00 - 05</u>	<u>95 - 05</u>
Violent	2,545	1,930	1,615	-24.2	-16.3	-36.5
Murder	68	134	17	+97.1	-87.3	-75.0
Forcible Rape	131	216	256	+64.9	+18.5	+95.4
Robbery	938	491	482	-47.7	-1.8	-48.6
Aggravated Assault	1,408	1,089	860	-22.7	-21.0	-38.9
Property	29,778	20,205	14,527	-32.1	-28.1	-51.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,323</b>	<b>22,135</b>	<b>16,142</b>	<b>-31.5</b>	<b>-27.1</b>	<b>-50.1</b>

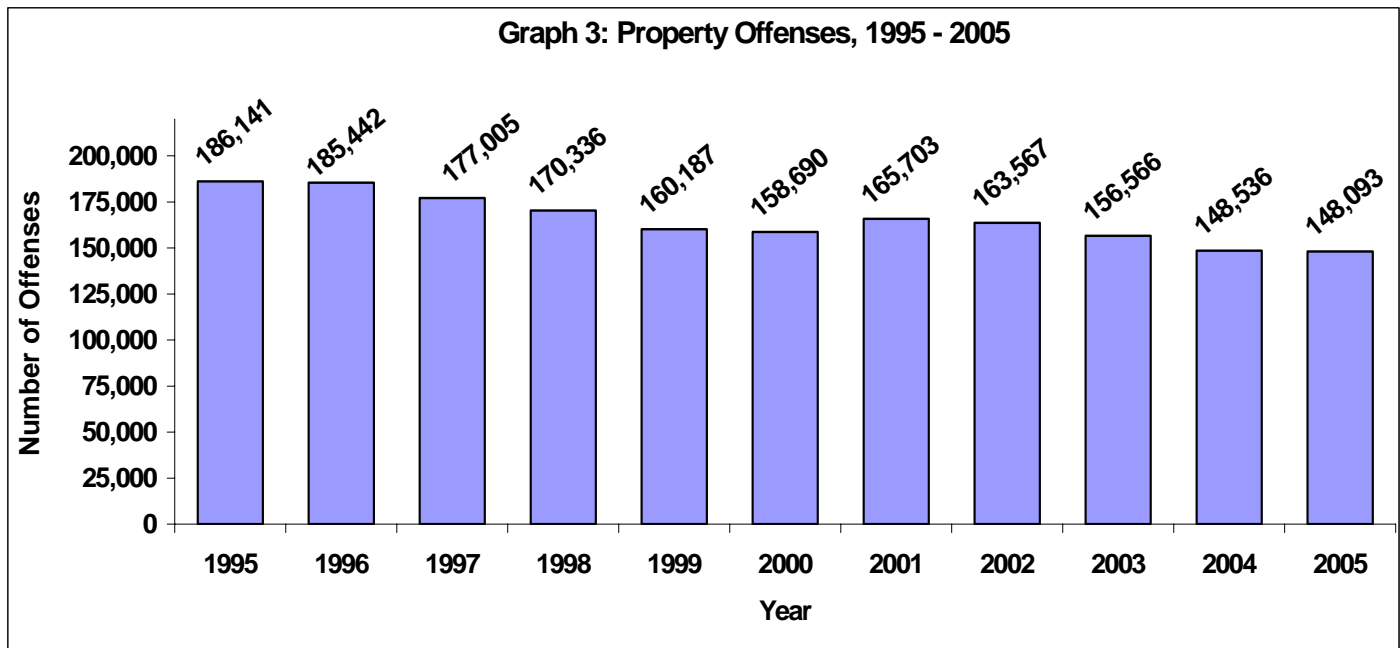


As shown in Table 6, violent index crime decreased by 12.5 percent from 1995 to 2000 and increased 8.6 percent from 2000 to 2005. With the exceptions of 1997 and 2005 violent crime has been on a general downward trend over the last ten years.

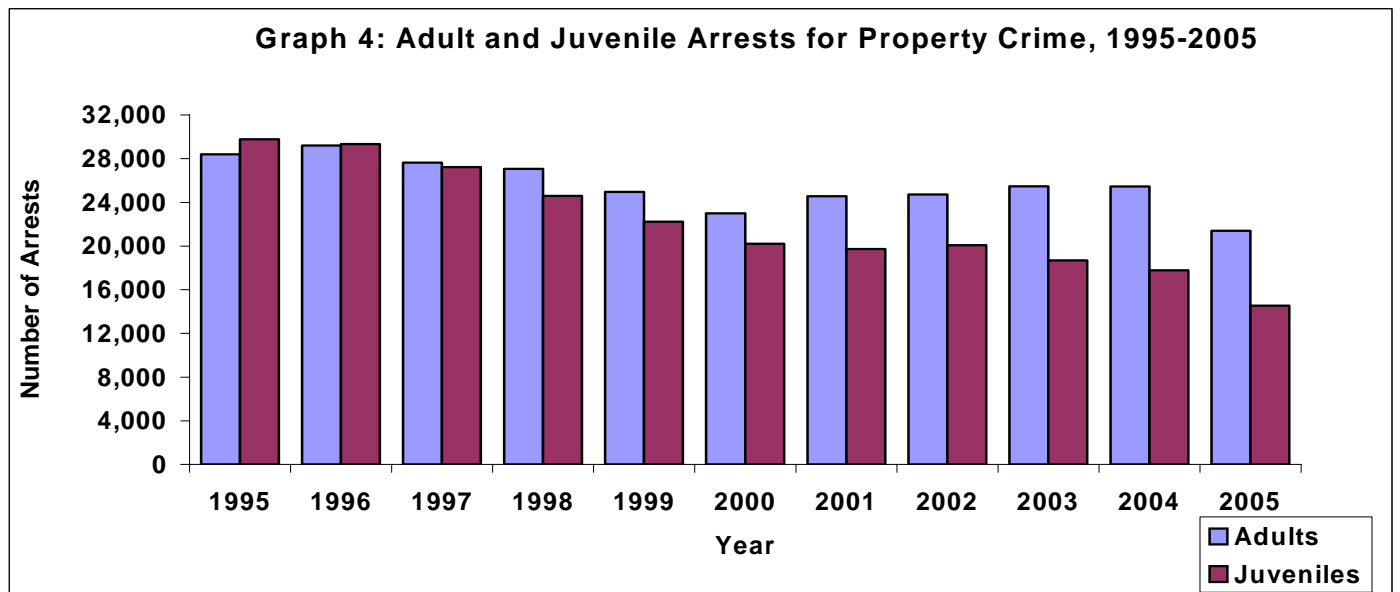


Adult violent crime arrests prior to 2002 were generally declining from the peak years of 1995 through 1997. The City of Milwaukee had a 111 percent increase in adult violent crime arrests in 2002 which continued through 2004. This change has had a direct impact on the statewide increase from 2002 through 2004 because Milwaukee reports 45 percent of the state's violent crime arrests. In 2005 adult violent crime arrests decreased by 28.3 percent, but continued the downward trend prior to 2002. Juvenile violent crime arrests have shown a general decline since 1995.





As shown in Table 6 and Graph 3, property index crime decreased from 1995 to 2000 then showed an increase in 2001 before falling again through 2005. Property index crimes have declined by 20 percent during the decade.



As shown in Graph 4 and Table 6, property crime arrest trends for adults and juveniles were on the same track from 1995-1997 and then, in 1998, juvenile arrests began to show a more significant downward trend. Both adult and juvenile arrests for property index crime declined from 1996 to 2000. Adult arrests began to decline in 2003 while juvenile arrests have been declining since 2002.

## D. Property Stolen and Recovered

TABLE 7

<u>Year</u>	<u>Property Stolen and Recovered, 2004 and 2005</u>		<u>Percent Recovered</u>	
	<u>Amount Stolen</u>	<u>Amount Recovered</u>	<u>Wisconsin</u>	<u>National</u>
2004	\$132,217,776	\$52,399,914	39.6	33.4
2005	\$141,640,017	\$55,680,770	39.3	Not Yet Published

The total amount of property stolen increased by 7.3 percent in 2005 and the percent recovered has remained about the same.

## E. Offense and Victimization Rates

Table 7 shows crime rates per 100,000 residents for Wisconsin, the Midwest, and the entire United States. (Note: the Midwest includes the 12 states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin). Crime rates are used for comparison among jurisdictions with different population levels and consist of the number of reported index crimes per 100,000 residents. While the 2004 and 2005 crime rates are used for Wisconsin, the 2004 rates are the latest available for both the Midwest and the United States. Note: all property rates include arson.

TABLE 8

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Crimes per 100,000 Residents</u>		<u>Odds of being a Victim of Crime</u>	
		<u>Violent Crime</u>	<u>Property Crime</u>	<u>Violent Crime</u>	<u>Property Crime</u>
United States	2004	466	3,517	1 in 215	1 in 28
Midwest	2004	391	3,281	1 in 256	1 in 30
Wisconsin	2004	211	2,685	1 in 475	1 in 37
Wisconsin	2005	242	2,654	1 in 413	1 in 38

Wisconsin's 2005 violent crime rate was 38 percent lower than the 2004 Midwest rate and 48 percent lower than the 2004 rate in the United States. The 2005 property crime rate in Wisconsin was 19 percent lower than the 2004 Midwest rate and 25 percent lower than the 2004 rate in the United States.

In terms of victimization over the decade, the number of violent crimes per 100,000 Wisconsin residents decreased by 14 percent from 281 in 1995 to 242 in 2005. The statewide odds of being a victim of violent crime also declined from 1 in 355 during 1995 to 1 in 413 in 2005.

The number of property crimes per 100,000 Wisconsin residents decreased by 27 percent from 3,649 in 1995 to 2,654 during 2005. The statewide odds of being a victim of property crime also declined from 1 in 27 during 1995 to 1 in 38 in 2005.

## F. Assaults on Law Enforcement Officers

There were no Wisconsin law enforcement officers killed feloniously in the line of duty during 2005. Agencies reported 500 assaults on Wisconsin law enforcement officers during 2005, 45 percent less than the 901 assaults reported during 2004. Seventy percent of the 2005 assaults occurred while officers were attempting an arrest, responding to disturbance calls, or transporting/handling a prisoner.

# Executive Summary

- Total violent crime increased by 16.0 percent due to increases in all violent crime categories including aggravated assault which was up 21.9 percent and murder which was up 29.7 percent. Total property crimes remained virtually unchanged and fell by only 0.3 percent in 2005.
- Murders have increased by 29.7 percent. The clearance rate for murder went from 79 percent in 2004 to 66 percent in 2005. Adult arrests for murder decreased by 23.5 percent and juvenile arrests for murder decreased by 32.0 percent.
- There was also an 11.4 percent decrease in arson and a 0.3 percent decrease in all property offenses.
- There were no Wisconsin law enforcement officers killed feloniously in 2005. Agencies reported 500 assaults on Wisconsin law enforcement officers during the year, 45 percent less than the 901 assaults reported during 2004.
- Adult arrests for violent offenses decreased by 28.3 percent and adult arrests for property offenses decreased by 15.8 percent.
- Juvenile arrests for violent offenses decreased by 11.9 percent and juvenile arrests for property offenses decreased by 18.3 percent.
- The 22 percent clearance rate for property crime in 2005 was less than the 2004 rate of 24 percent but greater than the 2004 national clearance rate of 17 percent.
- Violent crime declined by 6.0 percent from 1995 to 2005.
- Adult arrests for violent crime have decreased by 18.7 percent from 1995 to 2005, and juvenile arrests have decreased by 36.5 percent from 1995 to 2005.
- Both adult and juvenile arrests for property crime have declined for the period 1995 to 2005.
- The percentage of stolen property recovered decreased from 39.6 to 39.3 percent in 2005 which is still well above the national average for 2004 of 33.4 percent.
- The violent crime rate in Wisconsin during 2005 was about 38 percent lower than the 2004 Midwest rate and 48 percent lower than the 2004 rate for the United States.
- The 2005 property crime rate in Wisconsin was 19 percent lower than the 2004 rate in the Midwest and 25 percent lower than the 2004 rate for the United States.
- The statewide odds of being a victim of violent crime declined from 1 in 355 during 1995 to 1 in 413 in 2005.
- The statewide odds of being a victim of property crime declined from 1 in 27 during 1995 to 1 in 38 in 2005.

Published by the  
Statistical Analysis Center  
Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance

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